



City of Helotes

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Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update – September 17, 2020

Expanded reopening procedures announced for certain businesses

Today, Governor Abbott announced changes to the current COVID-19 restrictions. Similarly, Bexar County announced Executive Order NW-15, which is effective through Wednesday, October 28. The goal remains to continue opening the Texas economy while following all preventative measures in the fight against the spread of the virus. Today's changes include:

- Effective immediately, hospitals may resume elective surgeries.
- Retailers, business offices, restaurants, and gyms may expand their operations to 75% of their occupancy limit effective Monday, September 21. All protective protocols, such as face masks, social distancing, hygiene, etc. must remain in practice.
- Nursing homes and similar facilities are permitted to open for essential caregiver visits as of Thursday, September 24 with all applicable protective protocols in place.

The following protocols remain in place:

- Bars shall remain closed for in-person visits, but curbside, takeout, and delivery are permitted.
- Every person in Bexar County shall wear a face covering over the nose and mouth when inside a commercial entity or other building or space open to the public, or when in an outdoor public space, whenever it is not feasible to maintain 6 feet of social distancing from another person not in the same household.
- Indoor and outdoor gathering estimated to be in excess of 10 people are prohibited. There are exceptions for certain businesses and services, including restaurants, retailers, business offices, gyms, religious services, childcare centers, and more.
- Commercial entities located within Bexar County are required to have a Health and Safety Policy in place and face coverings are still required for staff, customers, and visitors.

Anyone with symptoms of COVID-19, including fever, cough, or shortness of breath are encouraged to get tested. Visit the [COVID-19 San Antonio website](#) for more information and to find testing locations in Bexar County.

COVID-19 has not disappeared. It is important to remain vigilant and continue to practice all protective protocols such as wearing face coverings in public, maintaining 6 feet social distancing, and good hygiene. Working together, we can continue to help lower the spread of the virus in our community and look forward to more expanded reopening of businesses and services.